



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/657,960	09/09/2003	Richard Charles Bernhardt	GCSD-1468(51334)	3040
27975	7590	12/13/2004	EXAMINER	
ALLEN, DYER, DOPPELT, MILBRATH & GILCHRIST P.A. 1401 CITRUS CENTER 255 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE P.O. BOX 3791 ORLANDO, FL 32802-3791				TSEGAYE, SABA
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
				2662

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/657,960	BERNHARDT ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Saba Tsegaye	2662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/22/03.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Elliott (US 6,456,599).

Regarding claims 1 and 11, Elliott discloses a method for routing message data from a source node to a destination node in a mobile ad hoc network comprising a plurality of intermediate mobile nodes between the source node and the destination node, and a plurality of wireless communication links connecting the nodes together (column 2, lines 49-62), the method comprising:

obtaining traffic state information about the intermediate nodes between the source node and the destination node, the traffic state information, node residual capacity information, and node transit delay information (column 8, lines 1-16);

discovering candidate routes from the source node to the destination node, a route comprising a series of intermediate nodes and wireless communication links from the source node to the destination node (column 8, lines 17-34; column 9, lines 44-59); and

selecting at least one route, from among the candidate routes to distribute message data to the destination node, based upon the number of intermediate nodes and the traffic state

Art Unit: 2662

information obtained for each of the intermediate nodes on the discovered route (column 10, lines 9-60; column 11, lines 29-40).

Regarding claim 2, Elliott discloses a method further comprising ranking the discovered candidate routes based upon the number of intermediate nodes and the traffic state information; wherein selecting the route is based upon the ranking (column 10, lines 15-21).

Regarding claims 3, 12 and 21, Elliott discloses a method wherein ranking the discovered routes comprises storing route entries in a route cache, each route entry corresponding to one of the discovered routes (column 3, lines 36-47; column 5, lines 46-52).

Regarding claims 4, 13 and 22, Elliott discloses a method wherein obtaining traffic state information comprises periodic transmission of traffic state information between the nodes (column 5, lines 20-33).

Regarding claims 5, 14 and 23, Elliott discloses a method wherein obtaining traffic state information comprises requesting traffic state information from the nodes by the source node (column 7, lines 22-35).

Regarding claims 6, 15 and 24, Elliott discloses a method wherein obtaining traffic state information comprises transmission of traffic state information between the nodes in response to a network event (column 5, lines 20-33).

Regarding claims 7, 16 and 25, Elliott discloses a method wherein node resource utilization information comprises node traffic buffer utilization (column 5, lines 1-8; column 8, lines 13-16).

Regarding claims 8, 17 and 26, Elliott discloses a method wherein node resource utilization information comprises node traffic queue utilization (column 8, lines 13-16).

Regarding claims 9, 18 and 27, Elliott discloses a method wherein node residual capacity information comprises available node capacity beyond that being used by unrelated traffic (column 5, lines 1-8).

Regarding claims 10, 19 and 28, Elliott discloses a method wherein node transit delay information comprises a time from when a node receive message data to transmission of the message data (column 6, lines 46-63).

Regarding claim 20, Elliott discloses a mobile node for use in a mobile ad hoc network defined by a plurality of mobile nodes and a plurality of wireless communication links connecting the plurality of mobile nodes together (column 2, lines 49-62), the mobile node comprising:

a communications device (mobile station) to wirelessly communicate with other nodes of the plurality of nodes via the wireless communication links (column 2, lines 49-62); and

a controller (CPU 3) route communications via the communications device, the communications comprising message data, the controller comprising:

a traffic state monitoring unit to obtain traffic state information about the plurality of nodes, the traffic state information including resource utilization information, residual capacity information and transit delay information (column 8, lines 17-34);

a route discovery unit to discover candidate routes to a destination node (column 8, lines 17-34; column 9, lines 44-59),

a route ranking unit to rank candidate routes based upon the number of nodes and the traffic state information of the nodes on the candidate route (column 10, lines 9-60; column 11, lines 29-40), and

a message data distribution unit to distribute the message data to the destination node along at least one candidate route based upon the rank (column 10, lines 15-21).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Garcia-Luna-Aceves et al. (US 2003/0037167) discloses unified routing scheme for ad-hoc internetworking.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saba Tsegaye whose telephone number is (571) 272-3091. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00), First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou can be reached on (571) 272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ST
November 30, 2004



JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER